TABLE 4

Biocide Triclosan	Plastics Clear EP	*Listeria Monocytogenes*	*Escherichia Coli*	*Staphylococcus Aureus*	*Staphylococcus aureus* (Res)	*Bacillus Subtilis*	*Streptococcus Faecalis*	*Salmonella Typhimurium*
0	Clear EP	0	0	19	17	0	0	0
Triclosan	Clear EP	16	17	25	23	17	16	17
0	Pigmented EP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Triclosan	Pigmented EP	17	23	39	39	21	16	23
0	Pigmented EP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Triclosan	Pigmented EP	0	19	25	25	25	0	15
Triclosan	Pigmented EP	0	19	29	29	29	0	17
0	Clear polyester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Triclosan	Clear polyester	19	17	25	15	19	16	19

EP = epoxypolyester
Triclosan = 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenylether

We claim:

1. A substantially dry powder coating composition comprising particles each of which is a thermosetting polymer powder and contains an organic biocide, in a concentration of from 0.1 to 20% by weight, the composition being in the form of particulates each comprising the polymer powder containing the biocide, whereby the biocide is substantially uniformly distributed throughout the composition.

2. A powder coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the biocide is present in an amount of from 2 to 6% by weight.

3. A powder coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the biocide is a trichlorohydroxydiphenylether.

4. A powder coating composition according to claim 3, wherein the biocide is 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxy diphenylether.

5. A powder coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the biocide is a methylurea.

6. A powder coating composition to claim 5, wherein the biocide is 3-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1,1-dimethylurea.

7. A powder coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the biocide is an imidazolcarbamate.

8. A powder coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the polymer powder has a specific gravity of from 1.2 to 1.9 and a particle size less than 100 microns.

9. A powder coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the polymer particles comprise a polyester or epoxypolyester or polyurethane or acrylic or other thermosetting powder.

10. A method of distributing an organic biocide substantially uniformly in a thermosetting powder coating composition, the method comprising:

mixing precursors of the thermosetting polymer powder together with the organic biocide in a concentration of 0.1 to 20% by weight and heating the mixture to form a hot mixture:

extruding the hot mixture into sheet form;

grinding the granules to a powder having the size of particles appropriate to powder coating; and

sieving the powder to less than 100 microns whereby the powder may be sprayed electrostatically.

11. A method of forming a coating on a metal substrate wherein said coating exhibits anti-microbial activity, the method comprising:

mixing precursors of a thermosetting polymer powder together with particles of an organic biocide to form a mixture and then heating the mixture;

extruding the hot mixture into sheet form;

granulating the sheet to form granules;

grinding the granules to form a powder;

sieving the powder to the size of particles appropriate to electrostatic spraying;

electrostatically spraying the sieved powder on to the metal substrate to form said coating and;

curing the coating to provide said anti-microbial coating on the metal substrate.